

**UNIFIED ARIZONA VETERANS (UAV), P.O. BOX 34338, PHOENIX, AZ 85067**

**MINUTES OF THE UAV GENERAL MEETING HELD ON MARCH 5, 2011  
AT THE STATE VETERAN HOME, 4141 N. SILVESTRE HERRERA WAY,  
PHOENIX, AZ 85012**

**CALL TO ORDER: 10 a.m. by Chairman Bob Delker, who led the Pledge of Allegiance; and the Invocation by Chaplain Bo Bohach.**

**PRESENTATIONS:**

- 1. Marine Corps Scholarship Foundation Gala on April 30, 2011 – Rick Romley, Ira Shapiro, and Robert J. “RJ” Mitchell, Marine Corps veterans and members of the Scarlet and Gold Committee, Phoenix Marine Corps Scholarship Foundation. The Marine Corps Scholarship Foundation was established in 1962. Proceeds of the Gala go to scholarships to Marine Corps families. Dinner cost: \$250.00. Westin Kierland Resort, 6902 E. Greenway Parkway, Scottsdale 85254. Participants will include the Navajo Code Talkers, Luis Gonzalez, David McIntyre, and the USMC Band.**
- 2. Status of the Military Memorials at Wesley Bolin Plaza – Patrick McGarry, President, CMAA/Construction Management Association of America; Veterans Memorial Restoration Committee Chair. Mr. McGarry reminded everyone that Arizona will be commemorating its Centennial in February 2012. He showed photos of various memorials needing repairs. He met with Ms. Nola Barnes, State Director of Administration, which is assigned responsibility for the memorials at Bolin Plaza. Mr. McGarry is seeking the support of a 501(c)(3) organization to whom donations can be made. Motion made by Donna Adams, seconded by Judy Hatch, to encourage volunteers to assist in the repairs. Motion carried.**

**ROLL CALL: Quorum established for conducting business.**

**MINUTES of the February 5<sup>th</sup> meeting. Motion to approve the Minutes by Carol Culbertson, seconded by Mel Brody. Motion carried.**

**TREASURER’S REPORT as of February 28, 2011 was presented by Treasurer Jesse Gersten. Motion to approve, subject to audit, was made by Al Kerstetter seconded by Phil Hanson. Motion carried. The report is on file with the Secretary.**

**CHAPLAIN’S REPORT: Nate Cooper was diagnosed with shingles two weeks ago.**

## **REPORTS:**

- 1. Arizona Dept of Veterans' Services - Fred Irwin, Training Officer at AZDVS, reported that the renovation at the State Veteran Home is complete. 183 residents as of today. The new Veteran Home in Tucson is scheduled to open on July 1.**
- 2. UAV Board of Directors – Chairman Delker reported a very successful February 11<sup>th</sup> Copper Sword and Copper Shield Ceremony and Dinner at the Dobson Ranch Inn in Mesa, with 202 registered guests. Scott Essex, a resident of Tempe, was awarded the Copper Sword Award for his ESGR/Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve service. Senator Frank Antenori, a resident of Tucson, was awarded the Copper Shield Award for his service as a State legislator. As part of Arizona's 2012 Centennial, the 2012 Copper Sword/Copper Shield Ceremony and Dinner is scheduled for Friday, February 10, 2012; place to be announced.**

**Saturday, April 30<sup>th</sup> is the postmark deadline for Nominations to the Class of 2011, Arizona Veterans Hall of Fame.**

- 3. UAV Legislative Committee – David Lucier called everyone's attention to the In-State Tuition Bill, and Judy Hatch called attention to the Property Tax Reduction for 50% disabled veterans bill. There is also a bill regarding a Women Veterans' license plate.**

**Everyone is asked to think of a nominee (legislator) for the 2012 Copper Shield Award, due date to the UAV Legislative Chair Linda Fulkerson is July 1, 2011.**

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

- 1. Mel Brody reported that 1,048 homeless veterans, including 26 women veterans, received assistance during the Feb 2011 Arizona StandDown in Phoenix.**

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

- 1. Update on the National Memorial Cemetery of Arizona (NMCA): Mel Brody shared a March 1, 2011 letter from Steve Munro, Acting Under Secretary for Memorial Affairs, VA, which stated that the Dept of Veterans Affairs has 100 acres at the NMCA for development in the future, and that the VA currently has sufficient land to expand burial space beyond 2030. Mr. Brody stated that things have changed since 1997. Arizona had 128,000 veterans then; we have 650,000 veterans now. He also reported that Senator Frank Antenori has withdrawn his bill, and that an initiative is needed to put the bill back on the ballot. We need an easement removed or the NMCA will run out of space. Motion made by Dave Willis and seconded by Phil Hanson to take action on the Initiative. Motion carried.**

**2. Veterans Day Parade:** Mel Brody reported that the cost of a Veterans Day Parade is estimated to be \$60,000, and a sponsor is no longer available. There is a shortage of \$25,000 to \$30,000. The AZDVS can help with some expenses such as barricades.

#### **GOOD OF THE ORDER ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**1. Everyone is invited to the free Naval Order military history program on Tues., March 22. Speaker Jerry O'Brien, CWO, USMC, Ret. on "VMF-422, The Lost Squadron, WWII." Macayo's Mexican Kitchen Restaurant, 4001 N. Central Ave., 11:30 a.m. Point of contact: Carol Culbertson at: [claudehc@yahoo.com](mailto:claudehc@yahoo.com), 602.943.7834.**

**2. April 30 & May 1, 2011: 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Arizona Military Women Conference, Sheraton Crescent Hotel, 2620 W. Dunlap Ave at I-17. Registration is free. Point of contact: Shirley Vega at: [savega1967@yahoo.com](mailto:savega1967@yahoo.com)**

**3. Memorial Day Service at the Phoenix National Memorial Cemetery. Judy Hatch asked everyone to respond NLT 30 April 2011 as to each organization's intent to participate in the Memorial Day Service. Point of contact: Judy Hatch at: [Judithanns1@yahoo.com](mailto:Judithanns1@yahoo.com)**

**4. 50/50 Raffle winner was a Marine Corps veteran guest who had departed the meeting, so the \$60.00 proceeds were given to Treasurer Gersten for deposit.**

#### **CLOSING AND ADJOURNMENT**

**1. Next Meeting: Saturday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> at the State Veteran Home.**

**2. Closing prayer was given by Chaplain Bohach.**

**3. Meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**CAROL CULBERTSON**

**Secretary, Unified Arizona Veterans**

**602.943.7834**

**[carolculbertson@earthlink.net](mailto:carolculbertson@earthlink.net), [claudehc@yahoo.com](mailto:claudehc@yahoo.com)**